

**ABSTRACT**

A wire belt comprising having a plurality of wire strands, each of the plurality of wire strands being linked with at least one adjacent wire strand in the wire belt. Each of the plurality of wire strands includes a first end, a second end, and a plurality of linking portions between the first and second ends. The plurality of linking portions are linked with respective linking portions in at least one adjacent wire strand so as to form a plurality of joints in the wire belt. Each of the plurality of linking portions includes a compound Z-shape formation.